Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee - November 28, 2017

Conference Room 11

Board of Supervisors Members Present:

Sharon Bulova, Chairman
Penelope Gross, Mason District (Vice Chairman)
Jeff McKay, Lee District (Committee Chair)
John Cook, Braddock District
John Foust, Dranesville District
Pat Herrity, Springfield District
Catherine Hudgins, Hunter Mill District
Kathy Smith, Sully District
Linda Smyth, Providence District
Dan Storck, Mount Vernon District

Meeting Agenda:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/sites/boardofsupervisors/files/assets/meeting %20materials/committees/2017/nov28-legislative-agenda.pdf

Meeting Materials:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/board-legislative-committee-meeting-nov-28-2017

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 A.M.

Summary of Discussion:

Federal Items:

- Update on Federal Legislative Activity
- Federal Tax Reform Legislation
- Draft Recommended Strategies and Principles for the 115th Congress

The Legislative Committee received an update from Nancy Prowitt, President and Chief Operating Officer, Alcalde & Fay, and Cindy Colenda, Partner, Alcalde & Fay, on a number of federal items including the budget and the proposed tax reform package.

The Legislative Committee directed staff to gather information on how the House and Senate versions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will impact state and local governmental pension plans, particularly language that would make certain investments in state and local governmental pension plans subject to the "unrelated business income tax (UBIT)."

The Legislative Committee discussed a draft letter to be sent to the County's Congressional delegation to highlight several issues of concern in the tax reform proposals being considered by Congress. The Legislative Committee directed staff to make several additions to the letter, including adding the percentage of the County's General Fund revenues that comes from personal property tax (real estate and car tax combined); providing additional details about the projects and individuals who benefit from low-income housing tax credits; modifying language about advanced refundings to include the impact of the proposed legislation over the next several years; adding language detailing how the Cadillac tax will impact the County, and discussing the impact of the proposed legislation on private activity bonds and transportation projects. The Committee also discussed the possibility of reordering the letter. The letter would be discussed during Board Matters at the Board's December 5 meeting.

The Legislative Committee also reviewed the latest draft of the County's Draft Recommended Strategies and Principles for the 115th Congress. The Legislative Committee directed staff to strengthen the "Richmond Highway (US Route 1) Widening and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)" project language to emphasize the Corridor's critical role in federal operations and national security, as an access point and evacuation route for Fort Belvoir. The Legislative Committee also directed staff to update the Potomac River crossings language to make the state and federal positions consistent.

Board of Supervisors 2018 Draft Legislative Program:

The Board reviewed the following items:

- Priorities:
 - Funding Core Services Transportation Funding
 - Staff provided an update to the statistic showing the amount of funding the County would have received in FY 2017 had the fuels tax floor been in place.
 - The Legislative Committee directed staff to update the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) position to include information about the funding needed (an additional \$20 million per year) to accommodate future growth in the system.
 - o Funding Core Services State Budget
- Initiatives/Action Statements
 - Human Services Parental Notification of Involuntary Commitment for Minors Experiencing Mental Health Crises
 - Staff provided an update on this pending County initiative, and the Legislative Committee concurred with staff's plan to meet with a member of the General Assembly and make a final determination on this item based on the outcome of that meeting.
- Position Statements:
 - Funding Public Safety/Courts Funding
- State Budget Fact Sheet

Board of Supervisors 2018 Draft Human Services Issue Paper:

- Revised Introduction
- Position Statements
 - o Early Intervention Services for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities/Part C
- Human Services Fact Sheet

Overview of Local Fiscal Stress in Virginia/Financial Realignment of Virginia's Behavioral Health System presentations

The Legislative Committee received the "Overview of Local Fiscal Stress in Virginia" presentation prepared by state Senate Finance Committee staff and the "Financial Realignment of Virginia's Behavioral Health System" presentation prepared by Jack Barber, M.D., interim commission of the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services as information items to review after the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 A.M.

Votes Taken: None

Prepared by Arielle McAloon, Legislative Associate